



## NEWS RELEASE

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### **USDA RURAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTS WAHOO IN NEAR \$1.5 MILLION LIBRARY CONSTRUCTION**

**Lincoln, Neb., February 25, 2005**—The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development awarded over \$1 million to the Wahoo Public Buildings and Grounds Association to construct a 12,000 sq. ft. public library in Wahoo, Neb. Leveraged funds of \$333,000 from City of Wahoo and \$145,000 via Wahoo Library Foundation will be utilized. Proposed library, to be located at Maple & 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, will serve nearly 4,000 rural residents.

“Many people have worked very hard for this project to become a reality and now, with this great news, we are thrilled,” stated Diana Vasicek, president of the Wahoo Public Buildings and Grounds Association. “This will be a beautiful addition to our growing community.”

Honorable Daryl Reitmajer, Wahoo city mayor stated, "The USDA Rural Development loan is allowing us to make immediate progress in the building of a new library. Our existing library is currently housed in the City Hall, and is very short on space. The low interest loan made this project a reality for our community without an additional burden on our taxpayers."

Wahoo’s new library will provide space for children, young adult and adult collections with reading areas. Additionally, the facility will house a multi-purpose room, conference room, genealogy and circulations area and restrooms compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Mechanical systems, storage and IT computer equipment will be located in the partial basement.

Wahoo’s existing 4,000 sq. ft. library, located in City Hall, no longer meets the necessary operations of the library due to its age of 46 yrs. and lack of available floor space. Additionally, the facility is not ADA accessible and the electrical and phone infrastructure for technology needs is inadequate.

“We are pleased to assist in building the Wahoo Public Library. The facility will provide continued and improved resources and services that are essential to meeting the personal, educational, and professional informational needs of the community,” stated Janice Stopak, community programs specialist for USDA Rural Development.”

USDA funding was provided through the USDA Rural Development Community Facilities Direct Loan program. Loan term is 40 years at 4.50 percent rate of interest. Contact Janice Stopak, (402) 423-9683, (402) 437-5093 (TDY); 6030 S. 58<sup>th</sup> Street Suite B Lincoln, Neb. 68516. Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ne/>.

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